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10 June 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Training

THROUGH : Chief, Operations School

SUBJECT : Course Report/Chiefs of Station Seminar
No. 3-70 dated, 18 - 29 May 1970

A Chiefs of Station Seminar was held during the period 18 through 28 May. With the exception of the meeting with the DDS&T, all sessions were held in Room 1A-13 at Headquarters. Administratively, the Seminar went smoothly. The use of table microphones clearly improved the presentations and should continue to be used.

The group attending was unusually large in number - 21 - and senior in grade - four super-grades and five GS-15s. These senior officers contributed greatly to the general discussions and four of the scheduled presentations were given by members of the group. Unit representation was as follows: AF-10; CA Staff-1; EUR-5; FE-2; NE-1; and WH-2.

The most significant change made in this running was the tightening of the schedule so as to close each day at 1300 hours. This was accomplished by eliminating certain topics covered in previous seminars and reducing the time allotted to others. Starting earlier in the morning and shortening the breaks also helped. The subjects dropped were few and coverage of them could be resumed in any ten-day schedule. (Holidays within the seminar period have reduced the last two to nine-days). Having the afternoons free was so widely applauded, particularly by those officers with early departure dates, I think we will want to continue this time schedule in the future.

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The course report on the February Seminar said that several panel discussions inaugurated in that running would be retained but, after second-thought, it was decided to drop them. I have come to believe that the fewer people we have address the seminar, the better. In most cases one person is sufficient to pass on new information in his special field, stimulate discussion and give authoritative answers to questions. Additional people only tend to clutter the scene and consume time which is better given over to comments by members of the group. There are some exceptions, however, such as the sessions on Reports and Requirements and CS Records. Each of the several people who appeared in these sessions is an expert in his particular field and perhaps are needed to cover the subjects fully. Incidentally, the decision to expand the time for coverage of Reports and Requirements turned out well. The session was lively and rewarding and the discussion came nearer to being a true seminar than at any other time during the course. [] said later that some of the suggestions coming from the group would get careful considerations by the FI Staff.

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Mr. Bannerman devoted a considerable amount of time in his talk to new developments in the field of support - particularly some of the new technology - and what they portend for the future. The group was obviously interested and pleased with the talk and a number of officers commented that they would like to have had more of this sort of look into the future by other speakers. The COS Seminar does in fact, lack the "mind stretching" features of such courses as the Mid-Career and the first week of the AOC and we will try to introduce more of them in future Seminars.

The critiques submitted by the participants are attached.

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Course Coordinator

Attachments

- A. Course Schedule
- B. Student Roster
- C. Course Critiques

Distribution

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1 - DDP/TRO

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